

P R I O R Y
O F
St. B E R N A R D;
A N
O L D E N G L I S H T A L E,
I N T W O V O L U M E S;
B E I N G
T H E F I R S T L I T E R A R Y P R O D U C T I O N
O F A
Y O U N G L A D Y.

V O L . I I .

L O N D O N:
P R I N T E D F O R
W I L L I A M L A N E,
L E A D E N H A L L - S T R E E T .



P R I O R Y

O F

St. B E R N A R D.

C H A P. XX.

TH E mingled cries of dying
soldiers, and women rushing
through the streets, unknowing where
to fly to save themselves; and shriek-
ing infants, was dreadful! some for-
getting their danger, clasping their

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dying

dying friends, and lamenting the loss of husbands and fathers in one common fate !

Though accustomed to such scenes, the generous King felt for them, and bid the rage of slaughter cease. Particular orders were given to spare and protect the females.

The command was heard, and regarded, as far as the tumult would permit, not only by the English, but the Saracens, who, understanding what was meant, flung down their arms, and cried, Oppose no more ! he is a god ! he cannot be a man !

While



While the conqueror stood dictating clemency to his soldiers, a stranger of majestic figure broke through the croud, and, kneeling to the King, presented him the colours of the Citadel: he turned to view him, but, making a low obeisance, he mingled with the throng, and was lost from the penetrating eye of Richard, nor could his express command find out this valiant knight.

That same evening that Joppa was in possession of Christians, the French, under King Philip, arrived, and established their head quarters near the City.

A tournament was proclaimed to be held, in honor of Philip and the late victory, the next day, with pardon and protection to all that claimed it, or chose to leave the City.

Permission was also given to bury their slain, and, by the close of the day, some degree of peace was restored to the affrighted inhabitants.

De Courcy, in walking round to see the guards were all upon duty, was met by an aged Saracen, who requested to be conducted to the King, that he might kneel before him, and thank his clemency.

De

De Courcy wished to learn Abudah's business, but, finding him altogether absorbed in contemplating Richard's excellent qualities, he introduced him to the tent.

The venerable man advanced enraptured, and, with uplifted hands and bended knee, implored Mahomet to bless the guardian of his Zoraide.

Richard enquired who Zoraide was, disclaiming all knowledge of her.

Lifting up his eyes, which spoke the language his faltering tongue denied, he started from his knees ; terror took

possession of him, "Ah! holy Alla,
" am I so curst a wretch?"

The King, amazed, bid him be composed, and depend upon having whatever wrongs he had endured redressed.

"Ah! valiant King," cried he,
"fame once spoke loudly of Abudah's deeds; but time, that is never to be re-called or stayed, blots out the memory of the greatest worth. Remote from courts, and, as I vainly hoped, from war secure, I thought to pass the evening of my days; but where can we fly from
"fate?"

“ fate? I freely own I hated thee,
 “ merely because my trembling arm
 “ refused to poise the javelin against
 “ thee.

“ Two children were the comforts
 “ of my age :—Osmond, the
 “ glory of his delighted father, fol-
 “ lowed the foot-steps of his Prince;
 “ and Osmond’s glory, Osmond’s
 “ worth, was heard from every
 “ tongue. Saladin thought him
 “ worthy of his councils; his con-
 “ fidant, his bosom friend is Osmond :
 “ his sister Zoraide, young and beau-
 “ teous as the lilly, or the opening
 “ rose, remained to cheer her father’s
 “ widowed

“ widowed house. Artless her man-
“ ners, and the genuine dictates of
“ her heart, a heart that knew no
“ guile, flowed unreserved the in-
“ structor of her tongue.

“ One day we lengthened our usual
“ walk, through a small wood, that
“ shades the distant country from the
“ searching eye; I was dwelling on
“ our favorite theme, the valiant
“ Osmond, when a deep groan inter-
“ rupted me. Zoraide started—Ah!
“ my father, some poor wretch, per-
“ haps escaped from battle, breathes
“ in these shades his last, wanting the
“ common offices of humanity!

“ Not

“ Not waiting my answer, fearless
“ of danger, she ran into the part of
“ the wood from whence the groan
“ issued.

“ The first object that struck her
“ sight was a man, extended on the
“ ground, apparently dead; the other
“ a youth, nearly overpowered with
“ grief, and making many fruitless
“ efforts to assist his companion.

“ Zoraide, after regarding, for a
“ moment, the fallen stranger, turned
“ to me, and exclaimed, He is dead,
“ indeed, my father !

“ The

“ The youth looked at her with
“ inexpressible horror, and clasping
“ his hands, Then I am lost for
“ ever ! and fainted on the body of
“ his master : we raised him up, and
“ I found Zoraide’s fears had not
“ proved prophetic, and that they
“ had both only fainted, the one from
“ loss of blood, the other from grief.

“ Their dress was English, and
“ though declared enemies to us, hu-
“ manity would not suffer me to aban-
“ don them in distress.

“ Zoraide flew on the wings of
“ compassion to the house, and brought
“ the

“ the servants, by whose assistance the
“ unfortunate men were conveyed to
“ our house, and proper care being
“ taken of the wounded man, he was
“ soon able to tell me, that he was a
“ volunteer, belonging to the English
“ troops, and had brought with him
“ from England a beautiful sister,
“ whom he had placed, with proper
“ attendance, at a small village, then
“ in their possession; but Lord Piercy
“ seeing her by accident, admired her,
“ and finding her inflexible to his suit,
“ had carried her away by force: that,
“ as soon as the news had reached him,
“ he pursued the party, but all his at-
“ tendants forsaking him, except Lu-
“ cius,

“ cius, his endeavours had proved un-
“ successful to rescue his unfortunate
“ sister.

“ The artless Zoraide mourned his
“ loss, and strove gently to dissipate
“ the clouds of grief that retarded his
“ recovery. How delighted was her
“ benevolent heart, when Harcourt
“ was able to reach the garden; then
“ she would sportive join the circling
“ dance, or gaily to her lute the plain-
“ tive voice of melody attune.

“ I saw, alas! the change in both;
“ they lived but for each other: I
“ revered Harcourt's many vir-
“ tues;

“ tues ; but, an enemy to the laws
“ of Mahomet, and a foe to Saladin’s
“ high empire, reason and justice for-
“ bad me to accept: I told the youth-
“ ful pair that they must separate, and
“ that for ever.

“ Chagrin and disappointment
“ marked the face of Harcourt,
“ while down the cheek of Zoraide
“ fast ran the trickling tear: her
“ unstrung lute hung careless by her
“ side, and, all disguise unknowing,
“ gave a free loose to woe scarce ut-
“ terable. I interrupted not their last
“ farewell, when Lucius, the youth
“ whose uncommon affection for his
“ master

“ master I have before related, came
“ to the grove, with horror in his
“ face, and breathless with haste;
“ Arm all, he cried, the contending
“ armies come!

“ Heavens! exclaimed the stranger,
“ is Joppa then assaulted, and I un-
“ able to share the glorious conflict?
“ but, Lucius aid me quick; let me
“ provide a place of refuge for the
“ lovely Zoraide.

“ Pale turned the cheek of that
“ young miscreant, for now I find him
“ such; Any request of yours, my ho-
“ nored master, at the hazard of my
“ life,

“ life, I dare fulfill: be it my task to
“ guard her, and, should the rude
“ hand of war assail these peaceful
“ groves, to England’s King, as to
“ her guardian genius, I will lead her
“ trembling steps; one boon I have
“ to beg,

“ Name it, my faithful Lucius,
“ cried the knight; Harcourt must
“ grant whatever Lucius asks.

“ Then suffer me, when Zoraide is
“ safe, to return and share your glory
“ or your death.

“ His

“ His master embraced him; Brave
“ youth, said he, but thou art yet too
“ young to hazard, in that field of
“ hardy veterans, thy first essay.

“ No, my ever honored lord, in
“ your defence I cannot fall too early:
“ if death should meet and seize me
“ as his victim, respect my memory,
“ and shield my ashes from the com-
“ mon lot!—come, my lovely charge;
“ he then led the weeping Zoraide
“ through the wood.

“ Harcourt drew his sword, and
“ fought the battle. Your soldiers
“ prevented me from following my
“ child;

“ child; but I concluded Lucius had
 “ found, in Richard’s tent, an asylum
 “ for her innocence; for, at a dis-
 “ tance, I beheld upon the walls of
 “ Joppa, him and Harcourt: as a
 “ firm rock they stemmed the force
 “ that threatened to overwhelm them
 “ both in one prodigious ruin. I saw
 “ the valiant Harcourt snatch from
 “ opposing ranks the imperial ban-
 “ ner! the enthusiastic flame caught
 “ through the line, and Joppa was
 “ enslaved!

“ All that now remains, great King,
 “ for me to ask, is justice on the boy;
 “ compell him to give up my child.”

“ By Heaven! and by St. George,
“ the champion of our isle, he shall!
exclaimed Richard, rising from his
throne; “ see it proclaimed, good
“ Manston, through the Camp; a
“ hundred marks to him that first
“ discovers the knight who gained the
“ walls of Joppa; mean-time conduct
“ the good Abudah to thy tent, and
“ cheer the old man’s sorrows, while I
“ walk my nightly round,”

CHAP. XXI.

RICHARD was thoughtful, and ruminated much on what he had heard, when, passing by de Courcy's tent, a female voice, complaining loud, caught his attention; he stopped.—
“Why, why!” continued she, “did
“fate, unkind, permit that we should

“ lose the privilege of liberty for
“ twenty years, immured where glad-
“ some light scarce ever dawned! and,
“ when restored to friends, to family,
“ and every fond endearing tie, ren-
“ dered doubly pleasing, by being so
“ lately known, to be snatched from
“ them all, and made a most unwilling
“ prisoner in a distant land? Oh! vile
“ de Courcy, tremble for the upbraid-
“ ings of remorse thou must expe-
“ rience for these deeds! when every
“ tear thou hast caused me to shed,
“ will be rendered thee ten-fold back
“ in misery!—but yet, oh! gracious
“ Heaven, spare his son; mark him
“ not out the victim of his father’s
“ crimes!

“ crimes ! on his devoted head be all
“ thy vengeance ; but on my Ed-
“ mund’s all thy choicest blessings.”

She ceased, and the King determined to search deeply into the truth of this story. He was astonished at the general murmur of discontent, which prevailed in the Camp against his general ; and concluded, in his own breast, as soon as the tournament was ended, to begin a minute investigation of his conduct.

He reflected, that, as a prince, he was the last to hear truth ; but resolved to be the first to perform justice.

He returned to his tent, secretly rejoicing that he had discovered the real character of his favorite, before too late.

The general, as usual, attended his return, but found him thoughtful, reserved, and gloomy. He enquired for Abudah, and was informed no search could find either Harcourt or Lucius; and that Abudah was almost distracted, for the loss of his daughter. Meantime, the lovely Zoraide was safe: Lucius, in hastening with her to the Camp, met Lord Edmund, who full well he knew, though Edmund fortunately recollected not him. Lu-
cius

cius informed him of the claim Zoraide had to his protection, and conjured him to conceal her for Lord Raby's sake, where no one might behold her.

Lord Edmund promised, and led the trembling fair to his father's tent. They calmed the perturbation of her mind. She wished to see her father; nor had the image of Harcourt made so slight an impression on her heart, as not secretly to share the thought.

C H A P. XXII.

EARL Manston and his son longed with impatience for the trumpet's sound: by dawn of day they heard it, and, shaking off dull sloth, armed for the field. Lord Edmund's heart beat high with anxious hope, and, throwing off the disguise that had so long enveloped

loped him, appeared the champion of his father's right.

His armour was of burnished steel, and upon his shining helmet high waved the downy plume; his ponderous shield he held aloft, and, in his right hand wielded a sword, which many fallen Saracens had crowned with honor, and many years had, by a Manston's arm, defended England's rights.

Onwards to the field he moved, while his firm step and tall majestic port, proclaimed him a knight of no small rank in arms.

Meanwhile

Meanwhile the lifts were formed, judges appointed, and crouds of expectant gazers thronged the field: under canopies of state were seated the Kings of England and of France; the Dauphin, Duke of Burgundy, and all the Peers of either land.

Many Knights were called, and many spears were broke, till again the trumpet sounded, and from the Camp, with eager and unequal pace, the general came: impatient wrath and discord sat upon his scowling brow, and fullenly he took his stand.

At

At length, through the crouded ranks, Lord Edmund burst, and thus addressed the King:

“ I kneel to thee, my liege, for justice!—Begin this great auspicious day with justice! behold the stranger Knight your generosity would have rewarded: the time is now arrived; I come to claim the promise of my King.”

Richard arose, and raising up the youthful hero, bade him speak boldly.

“ I will, my liege,” said Edmund, and, turning to the heralds, bade them
proclaim

proclaim the combat, and challenge Lord de Courcy.

The general turned pale, and, with a faltering voice, refused to fight an obscure stranger; one who had challenged him without an accusation, and refused acknowledging a title legally granted.

“ Say, rather,” cried the valiant Edmund, “ obtained by fraud; but “ you shall know your adversary.” He then took off his helmet, and bowed to the King. All that knew him, with one voice exclaimed, It is Lord Edmund!

“ Vile

“Vile parricide,” cried de Courcy, recovering again his drooping spirits;
“Wouldst thou fill up the measure of
“thy crimes with a father’s blood?”

“No,” said Edmund, “it is to de-
“ fend a father!—here I disclaim thee,
“and thy house, de Courcy; and be-
“fore the fairs, and this august as-
“sembly, declare myself Hubert,
“Earl of Manston’s son, by chance
“alone adopted thine!”

C H A P. XXIII.

A MAZEMENT struck every one: the King himself was suspended with doubt how to act, when the loud trumpet announced another Knight, of mien unequalled, but by Edmund. The herald spoke his charge: he defied the general to mortal combat, and
openly

openly accused him as a traitor ! murderer ! and usurper !

Dé Courcy, eager to give some proof of innocence, to interest the King in his behalf, accepted his challenge.

Edmund, by the King's command, much against his inclination, gave up in favor of the stranger, who, turning round and seeing him, said, " Fear not, Lord Edmund, to trust
" the arm of Raby."

" Do I, then, again embrace my
" friend ? this is more than Edmund
" dared to hope !"

Mean-

Meanwhile de Courcy lowered around; he saw his fate before him; the gathering cloud seemed ready to burst in ruin on his head.

Again the martial clangor warned them to be ready, and a close encounter was begun.

Long-time the event was doubtful; despair on one hand, and just revenge on the other, flowed dreadful from their swords, when, at the last, justice prevailed, and on the sanguined earth de Courcy lay extended.

Raby

Raby and Lord Edmund assisted him to rise, and, at his own request, led him to the King, whose attention was engrossed by the latter.

“ By what proof, young man, can
“ you assure the world you are not
“ the son of de Courcy? What wit-
“ nesses can you bring?”

“ The greatest proof,” cried an un-
known, breaking through the croud;
“ an incontestible witness,—a father!

“ Behold, my liege, and recollect;
“ though this ponderous steel, and
“ twenty rolling years may well con-
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“ceal me from thy knowledge;—
“Hubert de Manston, father to this
“brave, this noble son.”

De Courcy, at this tremendous apparition, for so he thought it, closed his eyes, as fearing to behold him; and the pain from his wound was nothing to the tortures of conscience which wrung his soul.

The King heard Lord Manston's sufferings with an ear of pity, being previously prejudiced against the general. He sympathized with him and his Emma; unasked, restored all his former dignities, and invested him
with

with every new-acquired honor his liberality had misplaced on the now-fallen de Courcy.

Edmund advanced, and entreated the King to enquire for his Laura, who smiled at his impatience; but the Knight could only falter out, in answer, “ I know not, last night she
“ fled.”

“ Ah! gracious Heaven! again
“ have I then lost her, when just arrived at the very summit of my
“ wishes? oh! it is too much.” In complaints like these did Lord Edmund bewail her precipitate flight.

The King heard, and though a warrior, yet his soul was melted, and the kind tear stood trembling in his eye.

Each generous Briton beheld with joy the animated scene ! The father fondly embraced his son ; Lord Raby held a hand of each ; and Richard, descending from his throne, threw round them all, his arms paternal spread, and clasped his faithful warriors to his heart : then turning to de Courcy, commanded his guards to seize him, his stern brow indicating displeasure.

“ I will not stain this great auspicious day with blood ; but to-morrow
“ row

“row shall see this traitor’s fate accomplished.”

Earl Manston, with a countenance beaming with benevolence, kneeling at the King’s feet, entreated pardon for the man that had so grossly wronged him.

Richard smiled approbation of his conduct, and told Lord Manston he was the arbiter of de Courcy’s punishment; but banished him the court for ever. The Earl approached, and ordered some attendants to convey him to a neighbouring cottage, where proper care could be taken of his wounds,

assuring him, when perfectly recovered, he was at liberty. I give thee life and liberty for Emma's sake.

De Courcy turned away his face, with a deep groan. The generous Manston forbore to pain his enemy, and joined again the court.

C H A P. XXIV.

THE tournament proceeded with redoubled splendor, and Lord Raby, and his gallant friend, gained great renown. After the sports of the day, the two youthful lords retired, to communicate to each other the events that had befallen them, since their separation.

ration. Lord Raby, after listening with attention to Lord Edmund, recounted to him his meeting with Zoraïde, and praised to him, with all the energy of a lover, her artless innocence:—" But oh! my dear friend, " words cannot give you an adequate " idea of that interview, so eagerly " fought for by me, when the sweet " girl, blushing, owned she loved, but " that we must part for ever!

" This in an instant dashed every " hope. Ah! Edwy, said she, you will " no longer have Zoraïde to sooth your " grief, with gentle strains, to rest;
" a father

“ a father commands, and she must
“ obey!

“ She heard my eternal vows with
“ tears. Oh! Edwy, the thought is
“ distraction! while Zoraide alone
“ was wretched, she could bear it
“ with resignation; but, when she
“ knows thee partner in her distress,
“ her heart cannot sustain it!

“ Wilt thou not, Edwy, glory in
“ thy easy conquest? but Zoraide
“ knows not how to disguise her sentiments: I love thee, Edwy; I admire thy many virtues; but must
“ now for ever leave thee!”

“ Her

“ Her tears again interrupted her
“ speech: I adored her candour;
“ yet, on what could I resolve? my
“ duty to my country upbraided my
“ inactivity; and my love for Zoraide
“ hindered my forsaking her.

“ While thus I hung over her, in
“ all the mournful eloquence of grief,
“ her father, Abudah, interrupted us:
“ he is, of all his countrymen, I think,
“ the best, brave, generous, and good;
“ but, to his own determination, in-
“ flexibly severe. While drooping
“ under the rigour of his final sen-
“ tence, the sound of war re-ani-
“ mated my soul.

“ With

“ With her now almost distracted
“ father’s permission, I confided my
“ trembling fair to the protection of
“ Lucius, and pledged my honor for
“ her safety.

“ The affection of Lucius for his
“ master is surely unequalled ! in
“ every conflict he never once for-
“ sook me ; and, though his valour,
“ checked by his youth, never soared
“ above mediocrity, yet, all praise
“ would fall infinitely short of his
“ deserts.

“ Distress never told a tale, but he
“ was ready to relieve, or sympathise :
“ the

“ the gentlest maid could not have a
“ soul more tuned to friendship and
“ affection, than this youth; and yet,
“ how can I reconcile his conceal-
“ ment of my Zoraide, and so sud-
“ denly withdrawing himself?

“ Help me, my friend, to seek
“ them; by Heaven! if he is false,
“ my sword shall do me right.

Edmund smiled, and took his hand:
“ How happy am I, noble Raby, to
“ approve myself your friend, and
“ to ease the oppression of heart you
“ labour under.

“ Turn

“ Turn with me, my Lord, nor
“ think I trifle:—receive from my
“ hands the lovely Zoraide.

“ Her delicacy of sentiments have
“ charmed me: I feel for you both
“ the most exalted sentiments;—
“ change not colour, Raby, the
“ image of Laura is not so easy
“ effaced, that you need fear to
“ trust me with the beautiful Zo-
“ raide.”

By this time they had reached
Earl Manston's tent; a curtain hid
the lovely maid.

“ Where

“Where is my lovely Zoraide?”
cried Raby.

At his well-known voice, quicker
than thought, she flew. He clasped
her to his breast.

“Edwy,” sighed she, “I had
“forgot the world; I only thought
“of thee, and had sat down to
“sink with silence to the shades of
“night! but thy dear voice, sweet
“voice, sweet as the houri’s, in
“the prophet’s grove, charmed back
“my soul, and gave it to the
“world.

Edmund

Edmund saw this meeting with heart-felt pleasure, and hastened to find his father, that he might participate with them in their joy.

C H A P. XXI.

THE news soon ran through the Camp. Great *Cour de Lion* was impatient to see this eastern fair; and, ever attentive to make mankind happy, resolved to do likewise an act of justice; and, on the following morn, to restore the lovely Saracen to her
wretched

wretched father. Zoraide sighed ;
 Raby was alarmed ; but Lord Man-
 ston told them to fear nothing, that
 he was their friend.

“ I know,” said he, “ too well
 “ what sufferings are, to trifle for
 “ a moment with the happiness of
 “ either. We have all done the King
 “ some service, and he is noble ; but,
 “ if our intercession fail, Edmund, to
 “ serve his friend, must kneel : Rich-
 “ ard cannot deny the man that saved
 “ his life, by so nobly hazarding his
 “ own.”

The next morning Abudah was ordered to the royal tent. With aching heart he went. Zoraide was there, but veiled: affection, however, pleaded so powerfully in her breast, that, anticipating the King's command, who designed first to soften Abudah in favor of Lord Raby, she threw herself into his arms, exclaiming, "Ah! my dear, " my honored father; again behold " thy Zoraide! again she shall sing " thee to thy gentle rest, and, watching, see thee slumber undisturbed."

Abudah stood astonished; but recollecting his scattered thoughts, "Oh! " King," said he, " justly admired " for

“ for goodness as for valour, I humbly
 “ thank thee for this inestimable gift ;
 “ and now have only to request per-
 “ mission to conduct her back to my
 “ once peaceful home.”

Lord Raby eagerly advanced ; but
 Abudah, collecting all his dignity,
 “ Stranger,” he cried, “ seek not
 “ again to disturb the groves of Abu-
 “ dah ; nor tempt his child to leave
 “ her father in his white age, to mourn
 “ her disobedience.”

“ Hold,” cried the King, “ I have
 “ freely resigned your daughter from
 “ my power ; make me some recom-

“ pence, and by consulting her inclination render her happy.—Lord Raby is a right noble Peer, high in the favor of his Prince.”—

“ I am unfortunate,” interrupted the Saracen, “ to refuse my benefactor; my country and her laws alike forbid; Prince Mirzah loves the maid; for him she is destined, and must comply.—Come, Zoraide, renounce this lord, and give a proof how much you love your father.”

The unhappy fair-one strove to speak; she sighed out Edwy, and sunk lifeless to the ground.

Raby,

Raby, eager to assist her, lifted her in his arms, and tore from her face the veil.

The King clasped both his hands in an agony of horror: “Ye saints
“and angels!” exclaimed he, “de-
“fend me!—It is—it is, the image
“of my adored, my long-lost Beren-
“geria! look up, dear angel, for
“such thou must be!—Ah! wake
“to life, nor leave me in this sus-
“pence!”

At the name of Berengeria, the old man let go the hand of Zoraide; and, with a pallid face of expectation,

questioned the King where he saw Berengeria.

“ Where !” answered he, his voice broken and interrupted with emotion,
“ Berengeria was my wife ! solemnly
“ vowed mine at the church of Cy-
“ prus ; but her cruel brother soon
“ disturbed our boasted happiness :
“ his cursed emissaries stole our child,
“ the pledge of mutual love, whose
“ little infant smiles were both our
“ fond delight.

“ My Berengeria, oppressed with
“ grief, sunk to an untimely grave !
“ These hands performed the last sad
“ office

“ office to the best of women, and
“ closed those brilliant eyes in one
“ dark sleep for ever !”

He ceased; and Abudah, putting
both hands to his turban, prostrat-
ed himself at Richard's feet; then
supporting the trembling Zoraide in
his arms, “ Behold ! great King, your
“ long-lost child ! no longer Turkish
“ Zoraide, but Christian Elmira !”

Richard, enraptured, embraced her,
and invoked every paternal blessing on
her head; “ And thou, my better
“ angel,” turning to Abudah, “ the
“ guardian of my child, instruct me
“ how

“ how we owe these favors to thy benevolence: Who art thou?”

“ The father of Berengeria,” answered the old man.

“ Blest Providence!” exclaimed the delighted father.

Elmira raised her eyes in silent adoration of that power which had so signally interposed, and saved her from the dreaded arms of Mirzah; but although supported by a fond father, whose eyes were rivetted upon her, she cast a look on Raby, and heaved a sigh in tribute to his worth.

When

When their first transports were a little over, Abudah informed the King, that Omar, exasperated at his sister's marrying an unbeliever, stole the child from the unhappy mother; and concealing from him the rank of her husband, made him believe she had married a British officer, greatly her inferior in point of birth; but that he had hindered the child from being educated in Christian superstition, entreating me to bring her up as my own, to be my comfort for the lost, the fallen Berengeria, and change her name from Elmira to Zoraide.

C H A P. XXVI.

HÉ paused—and the King, after thanking him for his narrative, turned to Elmira, whom he had attentively watched; taking her hand, “Deal candidly, my daughter; you love Lord Raby; he is a British Peer, and by that title preferred
“by

“ by me to any foreign Prince what-
 “ ever:—If then, with pleasure,
 “ thou canst receive a father’s first
 “ request, accept Lord Raby, as the
 “ man he esteems and wishes to re-
 “ ward.”

Elmira looked at her father.

“ Your silence, my dear child, is
 “ more eloquent than any language
 “ could possibly convey:—take her,
 “ then, Raby, the most valued gem
 “ thy King can have to offer.”

Raby’s joy could scarce allow him
 to answer the King’s goodness. All
 joined

joined the general pleasure, and Richard was congratulated.

Elmira alone was silent.

“ Why,” said her father, “ does
“ not Elmira, like the rest, express
“ her pleasure ?”

“ Alas ! my father,” cried the
blushing maid, “ I know not how
“ to reconcile so many changes !—
“ Secluded from the world, each
“ scene I enter upon appears a
“ dream : but if it is the airy vision
“ only of a night, kneeling thus, I
“ beg

“ beg great Alla to grant that it may
“ ever, ever last.”

The King smiled at her earnestness, and giving her his hand, led on to the banquet, which awaited their presence.

Abudah stopped him for a moment, and took from his breast a little case.

“ My son,” said he, “ you doubt-
“ less recollect the surprise visible in
“ my countenance, when I first be-
“ held you; it was your strong re-
“ semblance of this picture, which
“ was

“ was hung round Elmira’s neck
“ when brought to me.”

The King remembered giving it to
Berengeria, and her hanging it round
the infant in sport.

C H A P. XXVII.

RICHARD then introduced his charming daughter to his great allies and admiring subjects. The murmur of approbation run through the tents, and many a gallant prince and courteous knight envied the happy Raby the privilege of entertaining the

the Princess. The next day another battle was fought, and victory again declared for the allies.

Trophies and prisoners proclaimed their conquest: among the rest, Omar, Abuhah's son, sullenly obeyed the dictates of the victor: his proud and haughty soul disdained submission; but when brought before the King, and he beheld his niece, and by her side Abudah, he groaned; and bending to the earth his fiery eyes, disdained to claim them as relations; but Abudah, forgetting his captivity, ran to him, and related Elmira's splendid fortune.

After

After hearing him, Omar cast round a look contemptuous; and, with an arrogance of speech unequalled, told his father, he had mistaken him: he never made a resolution, that time or adverse fate could make him change: he knew Berengeria had married England's King; but, had he been a God, and that God in opposition to his laws and country, he could not acquiesce without repining; nor, if he had power, refrain from punishing her violation of them.

Elmira, ever gentle, arose, and taking the hand of Omar, strove to melt his stubborn valour; but, with

a frown, he threw her from him; bid her be gone; called her an apostate to the name of Saracen, to stand tamely by, and waste her speech with slaves like him, manacled with cursed chains.

In an instant, encouraged by a look from the King, Elmira unloosed the bonds of Omar, and with a smile of dignity, blended with sweetness, bid him be free as his own thoughts, and though he scorned her, not to condemn her gift.

His proud soul softened; he turned to hide the emotion her generosity had caused;

caused; she saw the power of nature working in his soul, nor staid for his further relenting: she flung her arms round him, and bid him not again spurn her from him.

Omar returned the embrace: “El-mira,” said he, “I forgive thee, but I cannot kneel, nor pay homage, where duty bids me hate.”

King Richard rose, and taking his other hand, “Forbid it all the powers of friendship, valiant Omar, that I should suffer the brother of my Queen to kneel before my throne!—Next to Abudah reign

“ in my heart, my friend and brother.”

Silent the Saracen received this proffered friendship, and followed fully to the tent of Raby, to whom the King commended him; but finding his temper, after three days, inflexible and stern, and had received every honor a soldier could desire, Richard bade him go free to Saladin; and, as the fittest gift for minds so great as theirs, he sent, ransomless, three hundred prisoners, who, with loud shouts of joy proclaimed his liberality.

C H A P. XXVIII.

O M A R took a haughty leave; and, almost disdaining the gift of liberty, led the noble present to the tent of Saladin, who looked on them with astonishment, and exclaimed, "I cannot lose my honor, by making peace with such a man!"

he therefore sent a herald, to propose terms for restoring Europe and Asia to their accustomed tranquillity; but as several other powers were to be consulted besides those present, Richard could only agree to a three years truce, which was soon after ratified, to the mutual joy of all parties.

Some time was spent in embarking the troops; and, after many protestations of regard and eternal friendship, Abudah and his illustrious friends parted, he not choosing, at his advanced age, to hazard so long a voyage.

De Courcy had privately absconded from the cottage where the Earl of Manston's care had placed him.

Lord Raby could not yet lay his hand on his heart, and say, I am happy; the flight of Laura, and loss of Maud, were severe strokes to one of his amiable disposition, although the King, when on board, called forth a ray of delight, by informing him, that when they arrived in Cyprus, he would unite him to Elmira, at the same altar where he received her mother.

Richard

Richard would scarce bear him from his sight. Edmund was charmed; but Manston, who knew the King's changeable nature, was silent.

Pleasant gales smoothed the surface of the sea, and gentle Zephyrs fanned the curling sails: jocund mirth, with playful smiles, sat on every brow.

With prosperous winds they reached the Cyprian shore, once famed for the great shrine of Venus. The beach was thronged with people, and the King came down from his palace to receive his noble guests.

Richard,

Richard, in an unfortunate moment, introduced to him Elmira.

Seofrid was charmed with her figure, and before he knew her destined husband, suffered the little god to steal uninterrupted into his heart, and after artfully displaying a most advantageous treaty before her father, seized the opportunity, and pleaded his passion with every argument he was master of.

Richard saw the design; but the interest of all Christendom was at stake.

Cyprus

Cyprus was the only convenient port to lodge their stores, and was, in fact, the grand support of the Crusades.

He consulted the Duke of Burgundy, and Manston: the former, used to arbitrary power, looked on love as a momentary illusion of youth, and advised the King to study his own and allies interest, - by giving Elmira to the King of Cyprus: but Manston, ever benevolent and humane, proposed a medium, and wished entreaties and persuasions to be tried with Seofrid.

Raby

Raby was half distracted, when Lord Manston, to prepare him for the worst, acquainted him with this unexpected misfortune.

Seofrid, however, had not generosity enough to feel for Lord Raby; his only god was himself; he ruled over Cyprus with an iron sway, and only behaved with civility to Richard, to further his own designs, and avoid rousing his warlike genius; yet he knew his own consequence too well, to think he should be easily given up: he, therefore, urged his love with so much earnestness, that Richard took the fatal

fatal resolution of sacrificing Elmi-
ra's happiness to policy and duty;
he past his word, and, to perform
it, proposed their seeking her.

CHAP. XXIX.

THE morn was beautiful, and
newly rose; the eastern sky
was yet tinged with orient red, and
the crystal dew hung spangled on
the trees: the flowery groves sent
forth their opening sweets, and na-
ture spontaneously offered her tribute,
They

They sought Elmira in her apartment, but though so early, she was awoke and gone, nobody knew where; only her favorite Imis accompanied her.

They searched the palace gardens, but in vain, till passing by the cathedral, they saw the door stand open, and remembrance of Berengeria rising in the breast of Richard, he entered, and approached the tall majestic tomb.

At the sound of foot-steps through the vaulted isle, a murmuring voice, which at first they heard, was lost; when Richard, coming from behind a monument that hid the statue of Berenge-

Berengeria, started; he scarce believed his senses: he thought he erected but one image to the memory of his Queen, and lo, too appeared!

One stood erect, and, with a majestic pleasing smile, pointed to the opening sky, where, supported by a group of angels, hung a starry crown, while, in the other, she held her own, as willing to resign it, though unworn.

The other knelt at her feet, and hiding her face with a veil, seemed wrapt in fervent prayer.

The

The noise of their advancing made Elmira start; she turned and saw her father. The clustering monuments hid Seofrid from view. With disordered haste she quitted her knees, to throw herself into her father's arms.

“ My Elmira! How came you
“ here ?”

“ Pardon me, sir, that without your
“ leave, I came to vent my sorrows
“ at my mother's monument; but
“ sleep forsook my eyes, and dire
“ images of horror tortured my fan-
“ cy almost into madness. I thought
“ I saw my mother; she smiled, and
“ told

“ told me to be constant, else be-
 “ hold my just reward; then frown-
 “ ing, shewed a bloody dagger, and
 “ disappeared.

I started from my couch, and call-
 “ ing Imis, bid her conduct me to
 “ this awful place; and here I have
 “ vowed, before this sacred altar, the
 “ glittering shrines, and this dear ve-
 “ nerated form, ever to maintain my
 “ constancy to Raby pure and invio-
 “ late, or seal it with my death!”

“ What do I hear!” cried the
 King.

Seofrid eager advanced: Elmira saw, but heeded him not. Richard uttered a deep groan of anguish, and Seofrid stood looking on him with a countenance on which jealousy, hate, and revenge were strongly imprinted: at length, addressing the King;

“ Sir,” said he, “ you know too
“ well the interest of all Christendom,
“ to hesitate an instant in persuading
“ your daughter from persevering in
“ a resolution, the mere production of
“ a distempered brain, and which
“ every priest can give ample abso-
“ lution for the breaking of.”

Then,

Then, with a frown of contempt,
he left the cathedral.

“ Ah! my reverend, my honored
“ father!” cried Elmira, “ What
“ dire mystery must I learn from the
“ King’s half-uttered sentences!—
“ Ah!—speak,—torture me not
“ with suspense!—Why that averted
“ look? thus on my knees I beg”—

“ My child! arm thy breast with
“ fortitude! thou hast heard, though
“ bred in climes remote, of the he-
“ roism of British women; they are
“ renowned, wherever our whitened
“ sails have plowed the main, for

“ beauty and undaunted souls ! let
“ them hear and celebrate thy fame !
“ may they extol the daughter of
“ their King.”—

“ What must I do, my father ?
“ your looks distract me !”

“ You must, Elmira, resign Lord
“ Raby, and give thy hand to Seofrid !
“ nay, more, dress thy face with smiles
“ to meet him.”

Horror and despair were visible in
the countenance of the Princess : at
length, breaking from her father,
who held both her hands, she turned
again

again to the tomb of her mother, and
clasping her statue, "Oh! dear de-
" parted shade, look down and pity!
" View me with complaisance, when
" I call Heaven and thee to witness,
" except to save my father's life, no
" power on earth shall force me to
" break the solemn vows my father
" offered to his then happy, happy
" daughter."

Richard, though moved at her dis-
tress made an effort, and stifling all
remorse, peremptorily repeated his
commands, and enforced her com-
pliance.

As a poor wretch drove to the brink of a precipice, uncertain of the gulph below, stands transfixed with horror, so was Elmira. With up-raised hands and eyes she stood, as even fearful that the wind should waft more misery.

The stern command still vibrated in her affrighted ears, and she suffered herself to be led to the palace, unknowing where she went.

The first that met them was Raby, when, uttering a piercing shriek, she hid her face in her veil, and stood immoveable.

Lord

Lord Raby, alarmed, caught hold of her hand, and entreated to know the occasion of such seeming agony.

Richard, with a stern though disordered look, bid him leave them, and without a murmur resign the Princess to a higher claim. "A King demands her, and a King resigns her."

"But, Sir," interrupted Raby, "Can Elmira so calmly give me up?
"Has Raby lost that claim which
"Edwy once had both to her love
"and friendship? Hast thou, Elmira,
"forgot me?"—

"No!"

"No!" articulated the distressed Princess.

"Nor ever, then," rejoined he,
"will I resign thee!"

Seofrid coming in, over-heard part of their conversation, and told an officer to acquaint the Saracen ambassador, that he acknowledged the honor Saladin's proffered friendship conferred upon him, and would consider of the advantages of the proposed alliance.

Richard ordered Raby to leave them, and met Seofrid with a forced smile, for he loved his daughter even

at

at the moment he had determined her misery ; but the reflection that he should sacrifice all his allies, as well as himself, forbade his wonted indulgence.

He told the Cyprian King, Elmira should be his ; and, as soon as the preparations necessary for so splendid a marriage was ready, King Richard sought his daughter ; he found her in tears, and her disordered dress bespoke the anxiety of mind she laboured under.

He commanded her to dry those ill-timed tears, and follow to the temple.

Majestic

Majestic she arose, and complied.
The ceremony began, when breaking
silence, and fixing her eyes upon the
Bishop, " Hold ! " cried she, " aid
" not man to break the law of Hea-
" ven ! — before every saint I attest
" myself the betrothed of Raby : I
" have not long been Christian ; but,
" if violating a solemn oath be one
" of their precepts, oh ! thou divine
" and unknown power, instruct me
" how to worship thee, and yet pre-
" serve my truth ! "

" Trifle not, Elmira," said Rich-
ard, sternly, " give the King your
" hand ;

“ hand; Is this your duty to a fa-
“ ther?”

“ It is!” cried she, with enthusi-
-astic phrenzy, “ this shall be told in
“ England!”

Seofrid advanced to take her hand;
but he beheld the once-mild and gen-
tle Zoraide animated by all the hor-
rors of distraction! she broke from
his hold, and ran shrieking to Raby
for protection, who at her earnest re-
quest had attended.

Her father, enraged, commanded
Lord Raby to be forced out of the
cathe-

cathedral; and, in spite of all her struggling, compelled her to give her hand to Seofrid.

It was some days before the painful recollection of what was past, came perfect to her mind, and a settled melancholy succeeded.

One evening she strayed to the monument, the only place she took delight in, and chance had there directed the solitary Raby. He started! but Elmira, uttering a piercing shriek, fainted.

Seofrid

Seofrid, who had watched her at a distance, alarmed, came to the fatal spot, just as she awaked to fresh anguish. Seofrid and Lord Raby were engaged.

She precipitately flung herself between them, and received her husband's sword in her bosom.

Raby caught her, and Seofrid stood stiffened with horror. Many attendants were by this time come round them, and looking at Raby with a smile, "Raby," cried she, "my prayers are heard; I wished for death! " love my memory, and comfort my
father

“ father and husband ; I forgive them
“ both : — haste to England, and seek
“ — your faithful — Lucius ; — hap-
“ piness is yet within your reach ; —
“ for — my sake — accept it, — I can
“ no more ! ” Saying this she ex-
pired.

C H A P. XXX.

RABY was with great difficulty forced from the body, which, after laying in state some days, was interred close by her mother. The stately bier was born on high, and she was attended by all the religious in the city, who walked in mournful procession

cession to pray for her departed spirit. Soon as the funeral rites were finished, King Richard quitted a country, where he had experienced so much pleasure, and yet more pain.

Seofrid soon after retired into a monastery of Carthusians, where he ended his days; and Raby, who had ever the last words of the Queen of Cyprus in his mind, immediately upon his arrival in England, set off for the Priory, accompanied by Lord Manston and Edmund.

He sent a servant first, who brought him the pleasing intelligence, that his
sister

sister was safe at the Priory; and at the gates he was met by her. Unfeigned was their joy at meeting, and the heart of Edmund was elated with the sight of Laura. She shed many tears for the fate of Elmira; and in turn related the occurrences that had befallen her.

C H A P. XXXI.

“ I WAS fitting,” said she (after relating de Courcy’s carrying her to Palestine) “ one evening, lamenting my hard fate, when from a corner of the tent advanced a graceful boy: he acquainted me that he had long served my brother,

“ in

“ in all his adversity, and rejoiced at
 “ his approaching prosperity; but, that
 “ his melancholy temper could not en-
 “ joy it, therefore he left Lord Raby’s
 “ service; and, in passing the out-skirts
 “ of the wood, had heard de Courcy
 “ making large offers to some rus-
 “ sians, to carry me off the same
 “ night; and learning by their dis-
 “ course who I was, he came imme-
 “ diately to proffer me his assistance
 “ in making my escape.

“ I almost suspected some treachery,
 “ and desired to be conducted to Lord
 “ Raby; but he assured me, that as
 “ yet Lord Raby could not protect

“ himself, entreating me earnestly to
“ rely on his fidelity.

“ I mentioned, Suppose we were
“ discovered! death would probably
“ ensue.

“ Then, cried he, you will die
“ nobly, and preserve your honor!
“ while the height of my ambition
“ will be gratified, namely, to save
“ Lord Raby’s sister.”

“ Noble boy!” interrupted Raby.

“ Suspend, my brother, your ad-
“ miration for a while, and prepare
“ yourself to pity and to sympathise.

His

“ His earnestness at last determined
“ me, and we made our escape, and
“ got safe on board a ship bound for
“ England.

“ My companion was overwhelmed
“ with despair during the whole of
“ our voyage; and since we have been
“ here, resided chiefly among the ru-
“ ins, till one day Hubert came to
“ us, with a countenance sparkling
“ with joy, and said, he heard you
“ were restored, and would soon visit
“ the Priory, accompanied by the
“ Princess, your charming bride.

H 3 “ Lucius,

“ Lucius, at the mention of those
“ words, fainted, and for some hours
“ after could not be persuaded to
“ speak.

“ A few days ago I was sent for to
“ the apartment, where he was ex-
“ tended almost lifeless on a couch.

“ Laura, said he, I think—nay
“ hope—I have not long to live!
“ You possess your brother’s genero-
“ sity of temper, therefore to you I
“ am now going to reveal a secret
“ I hoped to have buried with me:—
“ then, after a little hesitation---You
“ have

" have no doubt heard of Julia de
" Courcy ?

" I have; my brother and Lord
" Edmund have often mentioned her.

" Oh ! Laura, that brother ! then
" taking my hand, said; My gentle
" friend ! prepare thy heart, ever
" ready to sympathise with the un-
" happy, to hearken, while I have
" yet strength to relate :—cast from
" thy friendship the Lucius who has
" deceived thee by a feigned garb,
" but let heaven-born pity plead for
" the failings, the distresses of Julia !"

They

They all exclaimed, Julia! Lord Raby turned pale, but bade her proceed.

“ After I had embraced and assured her of my friendship, she thus continued her artless tale: I was, my dear Laura, brought up in perfect ignorance; my mother dying when I was but an infant, my father committed me to the care of Alice, a watchful governante he could depend on, and sent us to a small hunting-seat he had in Wales, charging her to keep me closely confined during that season,
“ and

“ and to keep me from the society
“ of men in particular.

“ The first knowledge I had that
“ there were other beings in the world
“ besides Alice, and some few ancient
“ domestics, lead so closely to more
“ material circumstances, that I shall
“ make no apology for relating it.

“ Imagine to yourself a large val-
“ ley, something like that of Morven,
“ between two large mountains, near
“ the Castle of Llewelyn, one of the
“ most romantic places in Wales.

“ Alice,

“ Alice, who had the charge of
“ me, though to the last degree in-
“ flexible, had many good qualities,
“ and was well able to form and in-
“ struct the mind in every mental
“ and useful accomplishment.

“ A sufficient knowledge of polite-
“ ness, acquired by much associating
“ with the great, served to render the
“ stricter dictates of virtue and retire-
“ ment not harsh and rigid, but easy,
“ plain, and agreeable.

“ She formed my youthful mind
“ with every virtue, and made me a
“ faint copy of herself.

“ She

“ She loved me with the fondest
“ affection, and no time glided so
“ swift as that spent in listening to the
“ silver tone of her instruction.

“ She would often illustrate her
“ precept with example, and when I
“ was impatient for a description of
“ that world she often talked of, then
“ was the only severity of behaviour
“ Alice ever used.

“ Alas! she used to say, my Elea-
“ nora, if you are impatient to know
“ the world, you regard me not: a
“ day must come, my amiable charge,
“ when you must bid adieu to these
“ scenes

“ scenes of real felicity, and tempt
“ the thousand dangers with which
“ the world abounds; but then, my
“ Eleanora, then we part!

“ This redoubled my tears, which
“ had began to flow before at the
“ heavy charge, I loved her not!

“ Weep not, my dearest child, said
“ she, it will not be your fault;
“ chance may direct some one to this
“ secluded spot; but always, wherever
“ you are, think on the hand that
“ formed your tender mind, and
“ remember, when she warns you
“ against viewing things in that false
“ mirror,

“ mirror called FRIENDSHIP, all
“ arms will be open to receive you;
“ but trust them not; there are few,
“ and very few, whose attachment de-
“ serve that name; most are built
“ upon the basis of interest, and
“ when the fabric of hope gives way,
“ falls with it into nothing.

“ But if, Eleanora, you would try
“ a friend, lead them to the scenes
“ of distress; behold their hearts,
“ like your own, glow with humanity,
“ and their ready arm extended to
“ succour the afflicted: behold the
“ tear of compassion starting from
“ the orphan, and the hand of pity
“ drying

“ drying the cheek of the widow ; see
“ them, with unfeigned charity, for-
“ give an enemy, and if adversity
“ oppress their foes, bid them be re-
“ lieved and happy ! here, Eleanora,
“ acknowledge a reciprocal friendship,
“ and embrace the possessor of these
“ charming qualities ; but, above all,
“ admire that friend who freely chides
“ your faults, and reproves you when
“ doing wrong ! look upon those as
“ your truest friends, for be assured,
“ the very best of mortals are so far
“ from the standard of perfection, that
“ great room indeed is left for im-
“ provement.

“ Never,

“ Never, then, be either above
“ instruction or reproof; and when
“ I am no more, oh! Eleanora, re-
“ member my advice,

C H A P. XXXII.

“ I N this manner did this charming
“ woman employ the hours sacred
“ from domestic offices, in warning me
“ from scenes I was, alas ! but too
“ eager to enter in pursuit of : two
“ small pictures she had were the only
“ ideas, except from ourselves, I could
“ form

“ form of the human species, till
“ one day, having just entered my
“ eighteenth year, I went to visit a
“ small but charming spot, about
“ half a mile from the house, which
“ I call mine.

“ It was romantically situated, un-
“ der a kind of hanging rock, that
“ sheltered it from the wind, and close
“ at the end of it ran a rivulet of
“ clear water, which served to add
“ to its beauty, and assist its growth.

“ Here was spring in all her various
“ hues, and summer in luxurious pro-
“ fusion: the jessamine and wood-
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“ vines ran wild up large trees, or
“ gently twined over the crags of the
“ mountain, forming different arbours
“ and shades from the mid-day sun.

“ The hyacinth, rose, and lilly, sent
“ forth their rival sweets, and perfum-
“ ed the air, Around here was my
“ retreat, where I gave a loose to
“ thought, and employed myself in
“ the pleasing task of propping the
“ tender heads of my drooping li-
“ lies, or confining the too luxuriant
“ branches of the spreading rose.

“ Not far from hence, at the source
“ of the rivulet I before mentioned,
“ was

“ was a large water-fall, one of the
“ most beautiful productions of na-
“ ture: it falls forty feet perpendi-
“ cular from the rock, and descends
“ rapidly into a river near the house.

“ One day, not far from me, I
“ heard the sound of voices, which
“ for some time I believed to be
“ Alice talking to an aged servant,
“ her confidential friend, who more
“ than once had been instrumental
“ in saving her life, and to whom,
“ she told me, I was under the greatest
“ obligations for mine: but I was soon
“ undeceived, as I heard another an-
“ swer very different from that of my
I 2 “ friend;

“ friend; but how was I astonished,
“ when I heard the most heavenly
“ sound, seemingly from the bosom
“ of the rock.

“ By the description I had heard,
“ I called it music; but how could
“ it come there?

“ I was rivetted to the place with
“ pleasure and amazement: still the
“ sound continued, and a variety of
“ notes swelled the instrument.

“ Assured it must come from the hol-
“ low of the rock, unthinking of dan-
“ ger, I eagerly began to climb, and had
“ actually

“ actually got upon a small level piece
“ of ground, where I proposed resting
“ myself, and then follow which ever
“ way the sound should direct: but
“ when I came to look around, my
“ delightful garden was scarce per-
“ ceptible, from the height on which
“ I was: but how shall I describe the
“ awful sight of the vast water-fall,
“ near which I stood: it rolled in large
“ sheets down to the rivulet, which
“ murmured to receive it.

“ The crags of the rock looked
“ broked by its force, and seemed
“ ready to drop on those desperate
“ heads who braved its horrors.

“ It was too much for me: unused
“ to such dismal scenes, and unac-
“ quainted with the different causes;
“ overpowered with them and fatigue,
“ my head turned round; I grew
“ faint, and no friendly arm being
“ nigh to save me, I fell over the point
“ of the rock on which I had first
“ stepped.

“ The first notion I had of the dan-
“ ger I had escaped, was finding my-
“ self in my own garden, but sur-
“ rounded with faces and beings I was
“ totally unacquainted with.

“ After

“ After staring at them some time,
“ one broke silence, whom I then
“ took to be the chief.

“ For the love of Heaven! sweet
“ maid, what could induce you to
“ climb yonder rock, where scarce ever
“ the foot of man or beast has trod?

“ I know not, replied I, confused,
“ unless it were the heavenly sounds
“ I heard; but how came I here?

“ I then found my clothes wet,
“ and naturally concluded I had
“ fallen into the rivulet.

“ At

“ At length advanced a personage
“ whom I knew not how to address ;
“ with the others I was at no loss ;
“ with him I felt an embarrassment
“ I could not surmount.

“ Perceiving it, he kindly took
“ my hand; fear nothing, dear maid,
“ said he ; nay tremble not, although
“ my son’s happy rashness endangered
“ a life far dearer than my own, I am
“ rejoiced that it succeeded, and so
“ much sweetness will not be lost in
“ an untimely grave! Who art thou?
“ were I to declare thee as thy image
“ strikes me, I should call thee some
“ beaute-

“ beauteous wood - nymph. Tell us
“ then who thou art.

“ I am, said I, trembling with fear,
“ a poor recluse, an inhabitant of these
“ vales : never, till this fatal day, did
“ I aspire beyond their limits, and
“ Heaven has punished well my rash
“ pursuit.

“ As I spoke, the sparkling eyes
“ of the stranger denoted pleasure,
“ and calling to a youth, who now
“ approached; Draw near, my son,
“ and see the beauty you have pre-
“ served ; to your care I commit her;
“ see

“ see thou render her safe to the
“ charge of thy amiable aunt.

“ I started; but when Lord Raby
“ offered me his hand, my eyes,
“ which till then looked on the
“ ground, where fixed on him: I
“ saw him lovely, and to him I owed
“ my life; but then my benefactress’
“ virtue, like a beam of light, darted
“ through my mind, and unexpected
“ by any one present, I fled.

“ It was through an intricate path,
“ that led to this favorite spot; and
“ as I often diverted myself with
“ running, I quickly eluded their
“ search,

“ search, through the turnings of
“ the way, and arrived at home,
“ where my dear Alice had been
“ under the greatest apprehensions
“ for my safety.

“ Alas! her fears had been but
“ too prophetic. I related every cir-
“ cumstance to her, not forgetting
“ to describe the grandeur which ap-
“ peared to me in every one I had
“ seen.

“ She sighed; her words were
“ scarce articulate.

“ Soon—

“ Soon—too soon for thee, my
“ Eleanora, must we part ! your def-
“ tiny has thrown you in the way of
“ the only man you ought to have
“ avoided ; for your father and the
“ house of Raby have ever been at
“ variance.

“ She then related the circum-
“ stances of Lord Raby’s marriage,
“ and touched as lightly as possible
“ upon the failings of my father.

“ This discovery made me thought-
“ ful and uneasy : I daily visited the
“ spot made sacred to me by the
“ presence of Raby.

“ I gazed,

“ I gazed, and involuntarily ex-
“ claimed, Here he stood ! I planted
“ a musk-rose, sweet emblem of the
“ much-loved Raby : it grew, and
“ many a tear I shed, at the remem-
“ brance of our first interview. For
“ three months I never failed daily
“ to watch its growth.

“ One day I plucked the last rose
“ decaying time had left, and ex-
“ claimed aloud, Ah ! Raby, though
“ thou may never know it, yet shall
“ thy memory be held ever sacred
“ by the unhappy Julia ! Then look-
“ ing again at the tree, Thy fallen
“ blossoms

“ blossoms are not the emblems of
“ Lord Raby!

“ A loud rustling among the bushes
“ made me start, and too men came
“ across near me. I gave a shriek of
“ surprise: one regarded me with a
“ look of chagrin, the other with
“ anger.

“ Fear gave me wings to reach
“ the house, and I told Alice what I
“ had seen. She made me no answer,
“ but taking my hand, opened a door
“ where these men were sitting, and
“ introduced me to one as his daughter.
“ ter.

“ I gave

“ I gave a start : Lord de Courcy
“ coldly received me, and with a look
“ of contempt enquired the welfare of
“ the beloved Raby.

“ The tear of silent anguish stole
“ down my cheek, and I thankfully
“ received orders to retire; but not
“ till my father had uttered severe
“ threats against me, for daring to
“ love the man he hated.

“ Alice was not in a humour for
“ talking, nor would answer one que-
“ stion I proposed, to my satisfaction.

“ As

“ As soon as it was dark, she came
“ to me with a travelling dress, which
“ she made me put on, and conveyed
“ me to a carriage, which went as
“ swift as possible.

“ Our journey was to London : my
“ father there condescended to speak
“ to me : he insisted I should receive
“ Sir Philip de Montford as my destined
“ husband ; uttered the bitterest in-
“ vectives against Raby ; and threa-
“ tened me with his curse, if I re-
“ fused.

“ I was introduced at court by
“ Lady Lancaster : here I again saw
“ your

“ your brother, but time and dress
“ had made such an alteration, he
“ did not recollect me.

“ I answered him with complaisance
“ and reserve: my father, notwithstanding,
“ was displeased at our meeting, and hurried me away to the
“ Priory.

“ The disgrace of my amiable brother,
“ and the misfortunes of Raby,
“ were sources of perpetual uneasiness,
“ and I determined to escape to some
“ monastery, where I could be secure.

“ I happily succeeded, and took
“ shelter at St. Augustin's: here my
“ ignorance of the world was plainly
“ shewn; I made no mystery of who
“ I was, nor my motives for escap-
“ ing.

“ They were not souls formed with
“ generosity, but immediately con-
“ sulted upon the means of giving
“ me up.

“ I over-heard two nuns relating to
“ each other the abbess' proceeding;
“ and commending her prudence in
“ making her own conditions, pre-
“ vious to the giving me up.

“ I was

“ I was almost frantic; but how
 “ shall I describe my agony, when,
 “ upon being sent for to the abbess,
 “ I found with her the steward of my
 “ father, a creature of his master’s
 “ will, and Sir Philip de Montford;
 “ and heard, by my father’s orders,
 “ I was to be married the next morn-
 “ ing in the chapel of the convent.

“ Alice too was come. I ran out
 “ of the room: my spirits were too
 “ much exhausted, to upbraid the
 “ abbess with her duplicity.

“ I gave free vent to my sorrow
 “ on the bosom of Alice, who tried

“ every art of persuasion, but in vain:

“ I was inflexible in my resolution,

“ that though I could never be

“ Lord Raby’s wife, I never would

“ be another’s.

“ Then, infatuated girl, cried she,

“ I too renounce thee! either receive

“ Sir Philip calmly, or I too will

“ join to drag thee to the altar.

“ Saying this she left me, standing

“ in torpid despair;—when rousing

“ from this reverie, phrenzy triumph-

“ ed.

“ The

“ The midnight bell rung, and
“ hastily throwing over the novitiate
“ dress I had assumed, a long veil,
“ I opened my door in silence, and
“ with cautious step trod the vaulted
“ isles.

“ I passed the choir; nought dis-
“ turbed the awful stillness of the
“ place, save the sacred hymns the
“ sisters sung. I stopped; the har-
“ mony, for the instant, made me
“ forget the horrors that awaited me;
“ but ere they had finished, the dismal
“ image was before me, and the gulph
“ seemed open. I flew, regardless of
“ the echo which repeated back my

“ steps, to the portal : the keys were
“ there, and I issued forth.

“ To the thickest wood I dragged
“ my trembling steps, and luckily met
“ with a small cottage : the people
“ pitied me, and concealed me two
“ days, till, by their assistance, I pro-
“ cured the habit of a boy ; and learn-
“ ing from some of the peasants, that
“ Raby was yet near, though they
“ could not find out his retreat, I set
“ forward, resolved to seek him ; but
“ my strength was not equal to my
“ resolution ; I fainted at the foot of a
“ tree, and remained for several hours,
“ almost deprived of recollection : the
“ trampling

“trampling of horses at length roused
 “me; it was the man I wished to
 “meet.

“Your generous brother fought not,
 “by an ill-timed curiosity, to pry into
 “the secret I strove to conceal, but
 “instantly received me to his pro-
 “tection. I served him, and was
 “happy.—But ah! Laura, the heart
 “of Raby was not formed to be in-
 “sensible,—the lovely Elmira was
 “my rival! What could I expect
 “from such an assemblage of per-
 “fections? I lost every hope; for,
 “faint as they were before, I che-
 “rished them.

“An

“ An opportunity offered to get
“ rid of Elmira; but I could not
“ plunge a dagger to the heart of
“ Raby!—I preserved her for him.

C H A P. XXXIII.

“ **A**FTER this hard trial of my
“ sincerity, I determined to
“ risk no longer the being discovered
“ by Raby; and with the intention of
“ returning to England, left the camp.
“ The fortunate circumstance of sav-
“ ing you, my dear Laura, will soften
the

“ the latter hours of my life, and make
“ them glide on more happy. —

“ Here she ended, and I entreated
“ her not to think of depriving me of
“ a friend so lately gained ; and she
“ was much better, till the news of
“ your approach reached her. She
“ would immediately have set off for
“ Morven Abbey, where she often
“ talks of retiring, but was so agitated
“ that it was impossible to remove her.

Lord Raby entreated Laura to obtain permission for him to see her the next morning, as he had particular reasons to request an interview.

Laura

Laura then told him she had not gained any intelligence of Maud, which redoubled her brother's uneasiness on that account.

It growing late, they separated, and Raby passed a melancholy and uneasy night. The uncommon attachment of Julia merited every return. The image of Elmira was not yet effaced;—in short, he experienced every disagreeable thought that could possibly occur. He had the highest and most refined sense of honor, which enabled him at last to decide, and form a noble resolution, worthy the spirit of an English peer.

In

In the morning Laura informed him, that with the aid of Edmund, and his father's persuasion, Julia was induced to see him; "But ah! my
" brother, expect not to see your once
" blooming Lucius! the roses are all
" fled, and a wan pallidness has usurp-
" ed their place; as a lovely blossom
" just trembling on the tree, exists my
" charming friend; but follow and
" behold her."

With slow pace they reached the apartment: the door, when opened, presented to the view of Raby his faithful Julia, extended on a couch; her eyes closed, as if, indeed, no more!

An

An exclamation of terror, which escaped him, made her raise her languid head. She attempted to rise, but Edmund, who stood by, prevented her. She was reduced to a mere skeleton, and apparently life almost exhausted.

Raby was moved at the sight: he essayed to speak, but could not. She assumed a serene smile, and begged her friends not to grieve for her. The only request she had to make, was, to hide from the malignant world her failings.

Raby determined to adhere to the resolution he had formed, requested
her

her not to give way to melancholy ;—

“ But turn, lovely Julia,” said he,

“ on me those charming eyes !—It

“ is Raby that intreats her to live and

“ be happy, if being his can make

“ her so.”

She started with uncommon exertion
from his supporting arm, and looking

earnestly at him, “ Oh ! Raby, weigh

“ well your words ; trifle not with me,

“ trembling on the verge of eternity !”

“ By Heaven, and all its saints !”

cried Raby, in great emotion, “ I do

“ not ; and further swear, on my

“ honor, it is not gratitude alone

“ that

“ that stimulates me; the happiness
 “ of my Julia shall be the future study
 “ of my life :—to thy vows of eter-
 “ nal constancy, I here add my own,
 “ and will claim thee before God as
 “ my affianced wife.”

Joy diffused itself through the coun-
 tenance of Julia. “ But, Lord Raby,
 “ in your generous solicitude for me,
 “ you have forgot Elmira: return to
 “ her, my Lord, nor let me be the
 “ unhappy cause of that amiable Prin-
 “ cess being for a moment unhappy :
 “ I am content with your esteem; re-
 “ verence my memory, and pay over
 “ my tomb the tribute of a sigh.”

Raby.

Raby, at the mention of Elmira, turned pale and agitated; and Julia, exerting all her strength, rose, and entreated to know the meaning.

Lord Edmund, making an apology for not telling her before, and alledging in excuse her avoiding to talk of Raby, acquainted her with the unfortunate death of Elmira.

She heard him with great emotion, and falling on her knees; "Ye faints
" and angels receive my prayers for
" her hovering spirit, and exalt her in
" the realms of bliss to that perfection
" she imitated!"

Quite

Quite exhausted, Julia fainted in the arms of Laura, who supported her. Raby feared she was gone for ever, and caught her from his sister in speechless agony. He reproached them with inattention, and could not be persuaded that she lived, till he heard her speak.

She intreated him to leave her, till a little more composed. Raby, though unwillingly, complied, and went with his friends and Hubert, to take, once more, a view of his estate.

C H A P. XXXIV.

THE glad tenants crouded round him on every side, and with loud shouts acknowledged his return, and their own satisfaction. He spent some days in regulating his affairs; and, in the mean time, often saw Julia: she was much recovered, and talked of retiring

retiring to Morven Abbey; but at length the united entreaties of her friends prevailed, and in a few months she consented to be Lord Raby's bride.

The most magnificent preparations were made for their nuptials, and they were solemnized with great splendor; and Raby once more becoming calm and happy, often declared, that had he known Julia's merit and attachment, before he beheld Elmira, he did not think that her charms would have been able to shake his attachment.

One day, as they were walking together among the ruins, which they

both took great pleasure in, he repeated to her the last words of Elmira, and begged to know if she had informed the Princess of her sex: she assured him not, but accounted for it in this manner.

“ When I had conducted Elmira
“ safe to the protection of Edmund,
“ I looked up and saw you upon
“ the walls, surrounded with adverse
“ swords: my fancy immediately formed the most horrid catastrophe, and
“ represented you slain.

“ I took a hasty leave of Elmira,
“ and was running forward to join
you :

“ you : she caught my arm, and re-
“ minded me of your picture, which
“ had been before promised her, and
“ was in my possession, for the pur-
“ pose of presenting her.

“ In my haste, I gave, instead of
“ your picture, one of my own, I
“ chanced to have ; and I imagine,
“ from the extraordinary likeness, and
“ my sudden disappearing, she was in-
“ duced to suspect me.”

Every one around the Priory were
charmed with Lord Raby's choice ;
and the same day that joined their
hands, united Lord Edmund and

Laura. The village bells were rung, and bonfires, old English hospitality, and unbounded mirth, testified the joy felt at the pleasing change.

From St. Bernard's Priory, or Manston Castle, none ever went unhappy, if outward assistance could relieve them.

They enquired for Alice, but she was no more.

Julia having frequently mentioned Morven Abbey, Lord Manston one day asked her, why she was so partial to that place ?

She

She said, from an early prepossession. Alice had so often spoke with such delight of it, that she had gained quite a reverential affection for it; "and," continued she, producing a small bracelet, "this was the picture of a friend of her's, who had retired there many years ago."

"Gracious Heaven!" exclaimed Lord Manston, "it is my Emma! haste! let us find if yet she lives."

Lady Raby acquainted the family with this important discovery, and they set off without delay for the abbey.

It

It was charmingly situated in the delightful vale of Morven, and commanded a noble prospect every way through avenues of tall trees, whose branches meeting at the top, formed a gloomy shelter; but on a nearer view, that gloom disappeared. The flowers grew spontaneous under-foot, and the gothic windows were covered with jessamine and woodbines.

They all gained admission; and the abbess being informed some strangers were arrived, came to receive them. When entering the room, she stopped; but quickly recollecting herself, advanced,

vanced, and civilly enquired their business.

Lord Manston eagerly presented her the picture, and entreated her, with great earnestness, if there was any person in that house resembling it; and, if possible, he might see her.

She looked upon the picture, then on him:—at last, breaking silence,
“ My Lord, these features are well
“ known to me; the resemblance of
“ them is in this house:—but check
“ your impatience, your’s she never
“ can be more.”—

“ Who

“ Who shall oppose it ? ” said the Earl.

“ My good Lord Mansion, your
“ wife heard a report of your death,
“ and after mourning the imaginary
“ loss seven solitary years, in this
“ abbey, she dedicated the remains
“ of her life to that beneficent power,
“ who, in all her trials, never forsook
“ her, but endued her with fortitude
“ to support them : — to him, there-
“ fore, you must resign her ; though
“ her society you may often enjoy,
“ when time has enabled you to look
“ on her only as a long-lost faithful
“ friend.”

“ I will

“ I will make no terms till I see
“ her,” cried the Earl.

“ Then behold your Emma !” at
the same time lifting up her veil.

Lord Edmund kneeled, and kissed
her hand through the grate, as did
Manston. She blessed her son, and
all of them ; and told her husband,
that the piety of her life, and calm
resignation, had so far gained the af-
fection of the sisterhood, that upon the
death of their superior, they had una-
nimously chosen her as their future
guide and directress.

She

She discoursed privately with Lord Manston; and when his first emotions were a little over, he agreed to the truth of her arguments, and was content to see her often.

She urged their staying a little time longer, when they proposed parting; and on Julia and Laura expressing their wish to see the inside of the abbey, Raby and Edmund proposed turning again for them. It was agreed, and the two ladies admitted.

After shewing them the gardens, the chapel, and the different apartments of the abbey, Emma conducted them

to

to a room without the grate, where she informed them was a wounded Lord, whom charity had induced her to relieve; adding, that his wife was with him:— but what was her surprise, upon going in, to see Laura and the stranger fly into each other's arms, with the exclamation of, “My dear Maud! art thou then found? my sister again restored me!”

Earl Henry being something better, Maud presented her sister and Laura to him: being all impatience, she thus accounted for their meeting at the abbey.

“My

“ My brother, I make no doubt,
“ informed you of my having the
“ misfortune to please Lord Piercy,
“ who being of a temper to brook no
“ controul, seized me, and had me
“ carried off by force. My dear
“ brother attempted to rescue me,
“ but in vain.

“ I happily had lost my senses, and
“ when a little recovered, found my-
“ self on board a ship, under sail for
“ England. I expostulated and threat-
“ ened, but they were equally vain.

“ I saw but little of Piercy till we
“ landed: as he conducted me on
“ shore,

“ shore, I saw a number of people,
 “ whom curiosity had brought to the
 “ beach, and loosing myself from
 “ Piercy’s hold, I implored pity and
 “ protection from strangers; nor did
 “ I ask in vain; Heaven ordained
 “ that Earl Henry should feel com-
 “ passion for me, and to him I owed
 “ my deliverance from Piercy, who
 “ was obliged to yield me to superior
 “ numbers,

“ Henry soon after professed him-
 “ self my admirer, and generously
 “ offered me marriage.

“ Unknown

“ Unknown and unprotected, I
“ knew not what might befall me,
“ therefore accepted him, and began
“ to experience a greater degree of
“ happiness than I had ever done be-
“ fore; when one evening Henry pro-
“ posed a ride,

C H A P. XXXV.

“**W**E accordingly set forward,
 “ and were about ten
 “ miles from home; and, as we rode,
 “ building fairy dreams of pleasure,
 “ and admiring the serenity of the
 “ evening, close to me, from a thick
 “ hedge, a gun was fired.

Vol. II.

M

“ My

“ My horse instantly ran off, and
“ was soon lost in a wood. Two ser-
“ vants came up and stopped him, of
“ whom I eagerly enquired for my
“ husband. They told me, with a
“ sneer, they would answer it he was
“ safe.

“ These words so cruelly alarmed
“ me, that I fainted; and, upon my
“ recovery, found myself in a magni-
“ ficent room, surrounded by attend-
“ ants, and Piercy before me, holding
“ my hand.

“ I shrieked, and called upon Hen-
“ ry. He left me to my despair, tell-
“ ing

“ing me coldly, If I did not behave
 “with more kindness, he should make
 “his own conditions; and ordered the
 “women to let me have my own way
 “in any thing reasonable, but be sure
 “to watch me close.

“As soon as he was gone, I insisted
 “upon being conducted to the top of
 “the castle. They denied me at first,
 “but finding me positive, complied.

“The night was the most tem-
 “pestuous I ever knew: the livid
 “lightning flashed, and the loud
 “thunder rolled! my brain kept pace

M 2

“with

“ with the disordered elements, and I
“ raved till quite exhausted.

“ At length I made a desperate at-
“ tempt to fling myself from one of
“ the battlements, but was prevented,
“ and some bore me to my apartment,
“ while others ran to acquaint Piercy,
“ with what had passed.

“ He came; envious pleasure spark-
“ led in his eyes; and, after summon-
“ ing his attendants, he compelled me
“ to follow him to a vaulted dungeon :
“ there ! chained to the ground, lay
“ my husband !

“ I ran,

“ I ran, and tried to raise him; but
“ he pushed me from him; called me
“ the contriver of his dishonor, and
“ the curse that had ruined him.

“ I saw Piercy had endeavoured to
“ imbibe the thought, that I had
“ wronged him: I therefore pitied
“ his error, and strove to remove it.

“ The vile Piercy endeavoured, by
“ words artfully termed, to persuade
“ me to leave him; but finding me
“ obdurate, he ordered his archers to
“ bend their bows against the breast
“ of Henry.

“ I turned, and again embraced
“ him; Let this, my dear Lord, at
“ least convince you of my innocence.
“ —If I am not to live for you, I
“ can, and will die! throw me again
“ from you, by these chains I’ll hang,
“ and the same shaft shall pierce both
“ hearts! —

For Piercy, let the world hear
“ and be surpris’d; that a knight,
“ renowned in England’s annals, and
“ great in defence of the Christian
“ cross;—a warrior, famed in every
“ song, should basely slay an unarmed
“ knight! —

“ Tremble,

“ Tremble, Piercy, lest the shades
 “ of thy great ancestors, from whom
 “ thou inheritest this castle, and thy
 “ name, should rise and upbraid thee
 “ with breaking those laws of hos-
 “ pitality, common humanity should
 “ teach thee to preserve.

“ He seemed stung at my reproof;
 “ and would, no doubt, have proceed-
 “ ed to the execution of his intended
 “ barbarity, but he was told his im-
 “ mediate presence was necessary.

“ He left us, with orders for his
 “ servants to guard us strictly till his
 “ return.

“ A great

“ A great bustle in the castle soon
“ left us but slightly attended; and
“ Henry being well satisfied of my
“ innocence, I, unseen, disengaged his
“ arms from the chains.

“ He was no sooner freed, than he
“ snatched a sword from one of the
“ guards, and threatened instant death
“ to all that opposed him.

“ We gained the castle gate, and,
“ to our great joy, found there some
“ of our domestics, disputing with
“ Piercy, who denied our being in his
“ castle.

“ My

“ My husband soon joined those
“ faithful adherents, and carried me
“ off with them triumphantly.

“ Piercy having got additional
“ numbers, and aided by de Courcy
“ (a name which makes me almost
“ shudder to think upon) pursued us.

“ Our attendants defended us with
“ the utmost courage, and forced our
“ assailants to fly; but not till de
“ Courcy had met with the just re-
“ ward of all his crimes.

“ My Henry received a wound, but
“ not dangerous, and was conveyed
“ here.

“ To

“ To these good sisters we have
“ the greatest obligations; their pious
“ care and attention is without pre-
“ cedence.”

CHAP. XXXVI.

SHE ceased, and the amiable Julia paid a tribute of filial tears to the memory of a father, though a cruel one. When Lord Raby and Edmund came, a pleasing scene took place, in meeting with his beloved sister, and in her husband a much-valued friend.

Lord

Lord Manston took upon him to acquaint the King, his uncle, with the treachery of Piercy, and the death of de Courcy. The King approved the end of the latter, and ordered Piercy to be confined to his castle, during his royal pleasure. He told Manston how much he upbraided himself for forfeiting his promise to Raby, and ascribed to that the unhappy fate of his daughter. He sent Raby a grant for all de Courcy's fortune, in right of his wife, and wished them every happiness.

As soon as Earl Henry's wound was cured, they went to take possession of de Courcy's estate, in Wales.

Julia

Julia took particular delight in shewing them the beauties of the place, as they recurred to her mind. She took Laura to her little garden :---but, with what rapture did she view her rose-tree, yet living : there were a few flowers on it, which she gathered with pleasure not to be described.

“ My dear Laura,” said she, “ how-
 “ ever trifling, yet, how pleasing is the
 “ renewal of past happiness ! I can now
 “ look back with transport to the for-
 “ tunate accident that first endeared
 “ your brother to my inexperienced
 “ heart ; and reflect with the same sen-
 “ sation upon this little plant, as pre-
 “ serving his idea yet more strongly in
 “ my

“ my mind: my attachment has not
“ been capable of being weakened,
“ by time or adversity; and may
“ the same constancy be yet my boast
“ in prosperity.”

“ Heaven grant it may,” cried Raby,
“ advancing; may we both cease to
“ exist, when we cease to love each
“ other:---but, my dear Julia, the
“ good old Earl of Manston has sent
“ for his son, and I fear he has not
“ long to live, we must return imme-
“ diately.

Julia took a hasty leave of her fa-
vorite abode, and they travelled with all
possible expedition to Manston Castle.

The

The good earl lived to see and bless them all; and sending his dying request to his wife, that she would suffer him to be interred at Morven, expired in the arms of his son. Their grief was unfeigned for this loss, and Edmund acquainted his mother. She received the news with pious firmness, and gave permission to inter him in the chapel.

After Lord Manston had laid in great state some days, at Manston Castle, they proposed to attend his hearse. The bell was tolled: all nature seemed to mourn a loss in Manston, and crowds of weeping poor followed his bier.

At

At the entrance of the chapel, the abbess, and all her sisters, received the sad procession, and conducted them with great solemnity to the grave; and after watering it with pious tears, each returned to their respective homes.

Lady Manston, while she lived, remained, as she ever had done, a pattern to the rest, for every virtue.

Lord Raby, and his friends, with their charming wives, were universally esteemed, and lived a long series of years, happy in the society of each other; and, at their deaths, in a good old age, left heirs to inherit their titles and virtues.

T H E E N D.



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